



BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

---

ANNUAL  
REPORT

*of*  
Medical Officer of Health  
*for*

1937.

JAMES C. SLEIGH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health and  
School Medical Officer, Medical  
Officer—Maternity and  
Child Welfare.



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## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

This consists of the whole of the members of the Council.

Chairman—Alderman H. J. CLOAKE, C.C.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Members of the Public Health Committee with the following

Co-opted Members :—

Mesdames E. M. CROOKS, B. A. LEWIS, A. M. LUCAS, H. J. STEARNE, and STAYLAERS.

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health—J. HOLROYDE, F.R.C.S., D.P.H.  
(Resigned : 31.10.1937)

Medical Officer of Health—JAMES C. SLEIGH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
(Appointed : 21.10.1937)

Assistant School Medical Officer (part time)—JOYCE E. ROFFEY,  
M.B. (London).

Medical Officer in charge of Immunisation Clinic (part time)  
D. HOWGATE, M.D. (London).

Senior Sanitary Inspector—W. HUGHES\*†.

Sanitary Inspectors—T. HOWARD \*†, T. G. HENRY\*†, W. JOHNSON\*

(Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute—\*)

(Meat Inspector's Certificate—†)

Sanitary Inspector Assistant—H. C. KELLY.

K. L. HESTER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.'s Certificate.

M. HINBEST, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V's Certificate.

F. E. GAFFNEY, S.C.M.

Chief Clerk—H. L. CLARK.

Clerks—A. C. STRIKE

—G. A. PEARSON

—Miss M. ROGERS





# Borough of Chatham.

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*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Chatham.*

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

The year 1937 has been notable by the retirement after 49 years' service of Dr. John Holroyde. The changes in the Public Health services in nearly half a century have been many. To Dr. Holroyde has been given the pleasure and justified pride in seeing the results of his work, the slums have nearly gone, whilst the infant mortality rate has fallen to one third of what it used to be and deaths from infectious disease are now very rare indeed.

But new problems are in front of us. Dr. Holroyde in his report for 1936 calls attention to the most serious of them, viz., the aging population with an ever increasing proportion of persons too old for work who have to be maintained by those in work.

You will not I feel sure expect me to comment at length on the figures contained in this report.

The necessity for an increase in the Dental services has been pointed out in previous reports by Dr. Holroyde and the Council have appointed a new whole time dentist, Mr. W. C. Griffiths, who takes up duty on 8th. June, 1938. The Council have also carefully considered the effects of the new midwives act on the ante-natal clinic and the fact that a whole time dentist will require more dental anaesthetics than have previously been given.

It was shown to be more economical and more efficient to appoint a whole time Assistant Medical Officer to undertake the duties previously carried out by three part time Medical Officers and most of the refraction work sent to St. Barts. Dr. Wm. Ainslie was therefore appointed Assistant M.O. and he will commence duty on 3rd. June, 1938.

In conclusion I wish to thank all the members of the staff, in particular Mr. W. Hughes, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who retired on 31st March, 1938. They gave Dr. Holroyde unstinted service and loyalty and that same service and loyalty has been transferred to me.

To the Members of the Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees I would express my deep appreciation and thanks for the courtesy and consideration they have always given me.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. SLEIGH,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

Chatham.

10th. May, 1938.

## Section A.

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres) ... ..	4356
Registrar General's estimate of resident population ...	44970
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according to	
Rate Books ... ..	11,416
Rateable Value ... ..	£251,270
Sum represented by a penny rate ... ..	£955

### SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Chatham is not a residential area, the chief source of industry being the Dockyard. The population is chiefly trading and industrial, together with persons belonging to the armed forces of the country and pensioners.

### UNEMPLOYMENT.

The returns for 1935, 1936 and 1937, at the end of December in each year, are as follows :—

	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
1935 ... ..	3113	435
1936 ... ..	2034	424
1937 ... ..	2406	732

Respecting juvenile employment the following figures are available :—

	<i>Numbers on Register.</i>	
	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>
1935 ... ..	104	343
1936 ... ..	50	177
1937 ... ..	80	310

### Average Number and Cost of Outdoor Relief, Year ending 31st. December, 1937.

Average number of Cases ... ..	503
Average weekly cost of Relief ... ..	£393 12 9

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Live Births Legitimate ... ..	329	346	675
Illegitimate ... ..	26	26	52
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ...			16.2
Still Births ... ..			30
Birth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births ... ..			16.8
	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Deaths ... ..	314	245	559
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... ..			12.4

**Deaths from Puerperal Causes.**

	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births.</i>
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes ...	1	1.3

**Death Rate of Infants under 1 year.**

All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	66
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	63.7
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	96.2
Deaths from Cancer (all causes) ... ..	71
„ „ Measles (all ages) ... ..	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	4
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	6

**Births.**

The number of births recorded is 727, as compared with 688 in 1936.

**Deaths.**

There were 559 deaths. During the previous five years there were :—

1932 ... ..	558
1933 ... ..	517
1934 ... ..	521
1935 ... ..	493
1936 ... ..	529

The number of deaths occurring at different age groups was as follows :—

Under 1 year ... ..	48
1— 5 years ... ..	18
5—15 „ ... ..	9
15—25 „ ... ..	28
25—45 „ ... ..	50
45—65 „ ... ..	157
65 years and upwards ... ..	249
Total ... ..	559

**Deaths in Wards and Institutions.**

St. Mary's Ward ... ..	57
Christ Church Ward ... ..	60
Luton Ward ... ..	58
St. Paul's Ward ... ..	53
St. Michael's Ward ... ..	65
St. John's Ward ... ..	62
County Hospital ... ..	193
Naval and Medway deaths credited to	
Chatham ... ..	11
Total ... ..	559

The deaths in the County Hospital are apportioned as follows :

St. Mary's Ward	...	...	...	...	52
Christ Church Ward	...	...	...	...	19
Luton Ward	...	...	...	...	28
St. Paul's Ward	...	...	...	...	36
St. Michael's Ward	...	...	...	...	17
St. John's Ward	...	...	...	...	41

Thus the total deaths belonging to each ward are :—

St. Mary's Ward	...	...	109	or 19.5	per cent
Christ Church Ward	...	...	79	„ 14.1	„ „
Luton Ward	...	...	86	„ 15.4	„ „
St. Paul's Ward	...	...	89	„ 15.9	„ „
St. Michael's Ward	...	...	82	„ 14.7	„ „
St. John's Ward	...	...	103	„ 18.4	„ „
Naval and Medway deaths credited to Chatham			11	„ 2.0	„ „

Chatham M.B.							
Causes of Death						M.	F.
All Causes .. .. .						314	245
1.	Typhoid Fever, etc.	..	..	..	..	—	—
2.	Measles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4	—
5.	Diphtheria .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4	—
6.	Influenza .. .. .	..	..	..	..	12	7
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
8.	Cerebro Spinal Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	—
9.	Respiratory Tuberculosis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	23	15
10.	Other Tuberculosis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	7	2
11.	Syphilis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	2
12.	Gen. Paralysis of Insane, Tabes, etc. ..	..	..	..	..	1	—
13.	Cancer .. .. .	..	..	..	..	44	27
14.	Diabetes .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	3
15.	Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc. .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5	4
16.	Heart Disease .. .. .	..	..	..	..	97	90
17.	Aneurysm .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	1
18.	Other Circ. Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	8	8
19.	Bronchitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	8	7
20.	Pneumonia (all forms) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	20	14
21.	Other Resp. Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	1
22.	Peptic Ulcer .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	2
23.	Diarrhoea under 2 years .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4	2
24.	Appendicitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	1
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	1
26.	Other Liver Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	—
27.	Other Digestive Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	7	4
28.	Ac. and Chr. Nephritis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4	5
29.	Puerperal Sepsis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
30.	Other Puerperal Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	1
31.	Con. Deb., Prem. Birth, etc. .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10	17
32.	Senility .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	12
33.	Suicide .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4	—
34.	Other violence .. .. .	..	..	..	..	13	4
35.	Other Defd. Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	20	15
36.	Ill Defined or N.K. .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35)						—	—
Smallpox .. .. .						—	—
Poliomyelitis .. .. .						—	—
Polio-encephalitis .. .. .						—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year						20	28
						18	25
						2	3
Live Births						355	372
						329	345
						26	26
Still Births						15	15
						14	15
						1	—
RESIDENT POPULATION .. .. .						44,970	—



The following Table shows the Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates during a period of 28 years.

Period				Birth Rate per 1,000	Death Rate per 1,000	Infant Mortality per 1,000 births
1910 to 1914 (average) ..	..	..	..	25.1	13.4	105
1915 to 1919 do. ..	..	..	..	22	18	97
1920 to 1924 do. ..	..	..	..	22.1	12.3	73
1925 ..	..	..	..	20.3	11.7	63
1926 ..	..	..	..	20.2	13.2	83
1927 ..	..	..	..	21.1	13.9	65
1928 ..	..	..	..	18.01	11.8	60
1929 ..	..	..	..	18.03	14.2	95
1930 ..	..	..	..	18.5	10.8	43
1931 ..	..	..	..	18	14.4	63
1932 ..	..	..	..	17.5	12.4	60
1933 ..	..	..	..	15.1	11.5	61
1934 ..	..	..	..	15.2	11.4	63
1935 ..	..	..	..	16.3	11.2	50
1936 ..	..	..	..	15.5	11.9	51
1937 ..	..	..	..	16.2	12.4	66

The next two Tables show Deaths from certain groups of Diseases and their proportional mortality during the years 1925-1937.

Year	In- fectious Diseases	Tuber- culosis	Respir- atory Diseases, including Influenza	Cancer	Diarr- hœa	Heart and Circula- tion	Total Deaths from all causes
1925	8	51	65	49	0	93	489
1926	45	48	90	45	11	98	536
1927	31	35	87	70	5	133	570
1928	36	33	65	53	3	143	489
1929	30	45	116	54	13	148	593
1930	4	43	56	55	4	136	453
1931	23	54	85	80	5	176	598
1932	17	48	75	53	8	191	558
1933	3	34	54	68	4	189	517
1934	6	54	62	55	7	184	521
1935	2	44	36	80	7	169	493
1936	3	44	48	66	3	211	529
1937	5	47	72	71	6	187	559

Percentage of Total Deaths (proportionate mortality).

Year	Infectious Diseases	Tuber- culosis	Respira- tory Diseases including Influenza	Cancer	Diarrhœa	Heart and Circula- tion
1925 ..	1.6	10.4	13.3	10	—	19
1926 ..	8.5	9	16.8	8.4	2	18.3
1927 ..	5.4	6.1	15.2	12.2	0.8	23.3
1928 ..	7.3	6.9	13.3	10.8	0.6	29.2
1929 ..	5	7.6	19.4	9	2.3	25
1930 ..	0.9	9.5	12.3	12.1	0.9	30
1931 ..	3.8	9	14.2	13.3	0.8	29.4
1932 ..	3	8.6	13.4	9.5	1.4	34.2
1933 ..	0.6	6.6	10.4	13.1	0.8	36.5
1934 ..	1.1	10.3	11.8	10.6	1.3	35.3
1935 ..	0.4	9	7.3	16.3	1.4	34
1936 ..	0.5	8.1	9	12.4	0.5	40
1937 ..	0.9	8.4	12.8	12.7	1.1	33.5

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1937. (England and Wales, London, 125 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns.)

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales	125 County Boroughs & Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
	Rates per 1,000 Population.			
<i>Births :—</i>				
Live .. .. .	14.9	14.9	15.3	13.3
Still .. .. .	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54
<i>Deaths :—</i>				
All Causes .. .. .	12.4	12.5	11.9	12.3
Typhoid and Para- typhoid Fevers ..	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Smallpox .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Measles .. .. .	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Scarlet Fever .. ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough ..	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06
Diphtheria .. .. .	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05
Influenza .. .. .	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38
Violence .. .. .	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51
<i>Notifications :—</i>				
Smallpox .. .. .	0.00	—	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever .. ..	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09
Diphtheria .. .. .	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93
Enteric Fever .. ..	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas .. .. .	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44
Pneumonia .. .. .	1.36	1.58	1.20	1.18
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births			
Deaths under 1 year of age .. .. .	58	62	55	60
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ..	5.8	7.9	3.2	12.0
<i>Maternal Mortality :—</i>				
Puerperal Sepsis ..	0.97	Not available		
Others .. .. .	2.26			
Total .. .. .	3.23			
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e., Live and Still)			
<i>Maternal Mortality :—</i>				
Puerperal Sepsis ..	0.94	Not available		
Others .. .. .	2.17			
Total .. .. .	3.11			
<i>Notifications :—</i>				
Puerperal Fever .. }	13.93	17.59	11.52	4.15
Puerperal Pyrexia .. }				14.34

## **Section B.**

# **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.**

### **LABORATORY FACILITIES.**

All bacteriological examinations are carried out at the County Laboratory at Maidstone. There is no delay in sending results. Chemical analyses are performed by the County Analyst.

### **AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

An ambulance is provided by the Joint Hospital Board for the removal of Infectious Disease cases and the Ambulance possessed by the Council is used in emergencies and also during the periodical overhaul of the hospital ambulance. An ambulance for the removal of accidents and general sickness is kept at the Chief Fire Station and operated by Officers of the Fire Brigade. The St. John Ambulance Brigade also provides an Ambulance Service.

The above arrangements appear to be adequate.

### **NURSING IN THE HOME.**

The District Nursing Association employs three Nurses who attend cases at the request of the doctor in attendance. Should the occasion arise the Council has an arrangement with the Association for the home visiting of Measles, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Pneumonia.

### **CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.**

#### **1. Maternity and Child Welfare, Elm House, 15, New Road Avenue.**

An Ante-natal Clinic is held on the first Thursday in each month at 10.30 a.m.

Children under 5 years of age :—

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2.30 p.m.

Fridays (weighing and food distribution only).

#### **2. Diphtheria Immunisation.**

Held on Wednesdays at 2 p.m.

#### **3. School Clinics.**

Medical Inspection :—

Wednesdays and Saturdays at 9.30 a.m.

Minor Ailments :—

Daily at 9 15 a.m.

Dental :—

Monday, 1.30 p.m.

Wednesdays and Fridays, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

The above are provided by the Council and the Education Committee.



4. **Tuberculosis Dispensary, 13, New Road, Rochester.**  
Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.  
Fridays, 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

5. **Treatment Centre for Venereal Diseases, 36, New Road, Rochester.**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays for consultations.  
Daily for treatment.

The last two are provided by the Kent County Council.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Following the appointment of a whole time Assistant Medical Officer of Health and whole time Dentist the above Clinics will be re-arranged from 1st June, 1938, as follows:—

### 1. Maternity and Child Welfare.

(a) *Ante Natal Clinic*—Every Thursday 2—4.30 p.m.

(b) *Children under 5 years of age.*

Mondays (weighing and food tickets only),  
2—4.30 p.m.

Tuesdays :— 2—4.30 p.m.

Fridays :— 2—4.30 p.m.

(c) *Mothercraft* :— Mondays, 2—4.30 p.m.

(d) *Dental* :— By appointment.

### 2. Diphtheria Immunisation.

Wednesdays : 2—4.30 p.m.

### 3. School Medical Service.

(a) *Minor Ailments and Medical Inspection*, 9—9.45 a.m. daily.

(b) *Dental*, daily 9—4.30 p.m. by appointment.

(c) *Refraction* 1 session per week by appointment.

(d) *Medical Inspection at Schools*. 4 Sessions per week by appointment.

## HOSPITALS.

### (a) Public.

#### County Hospital.

The present allocation of beds is as follows :—

		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
General Medical	...	57	80
General Surgical	...	28	30
Chronic Sick	...	25	45
Children	... ..		31
Maternity	... ..		18
Tuberculosis	...	12	12
Mental—Female Only			61
Isolation	... ..		8

Cases of Venereal Disease, Ophthalmia, Mental Deficiency (Idiocy, etc.), Orthopaedic and Puerperal Fever are admitted, but no special beds are allotted.

**(b) Voluntary.****St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester.**

A general hospital containing 126 beds, thus classified :—

Surgical	...	...	...	...	65
Medical	...	...	...	...	26
Children	...	...	...	...	23
Ophthalmic	...	...	...	...	8
Orthopaedic	...	...	...	...	4

There are 14 beds reserved for paying patients.

Additional buildings are being erected, which will provide 74 more beds. Two general operating theatres provided with the latest type of equipment are now in use.

There is a large Out-patients' Department and special departments for Ophthalmic, Throat, Ear and Nose and Orthopaedic Cases, together with a Laboratory, Electrical and X-Ray installation.

Facilities for the treatment of Cancer by Radium and deep X-Ray Therapy are provided.

A working arrangement regarding the transfer of cases from one Institution to the other has been effected with the County Hospital.

The increased accommodation at both these Institutions should go far towards securing earlier treatment for cases and the consequent reduction of the waiting list.

**MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.****Midwifery and Maternity Services.**

The Supervising Authority for Midwives is the Kent County Council.

The 1936 Midwives Act was brought into operation on 1st October, 1937, by the appointment of 8 whole time salaried midwives for Chatham by the Kent County Council.

All fees for the services of these midwives are paid to the County Council who make reductions as necessary in cases where the patient is unable to pay the full fee. In consequence the payment of midwives fees in necessitous cases by the Borough Council has ceased as being unnecessary. The appointment of these midwives with strict instructions to see that their patients have proper Ante-natal supervision has resulted in the Ante Natal Clinic held once a month being hopelessly overcrowded. From June 1st, 1938 this Clinic will be held every Thursday afternoon.

**Home Help Service.**

The services of a Home Help are available to all mothers for their confinement or illness due to pregnancy. Payment is on a sliding scale according to the income and number in family. This scale has recently been revised so that those able to pay, pay more than formerly. The service has proved a great boon to many mothers, especially those who have recently come from afar to Chatham where they have no relatives.

### **Institutional Provision for Mothers or Children.**

Beds are available for cases of acute illness at St. Bartholomew's Hospital and the County Hospital. If convalescent care is needed it is secured at a suitable Institution and a Cot Fund is available. The Salvation Army and the Rochester Diocesan Society receive unmarried mothers in their homes.

### **Health Visitors.**

There are three. Details of their work will be found in succeeding pages.

### **Infant Life Protection (Part 1 of the Children Act, 1908, amended by the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932 and the Public Health Act 1936.**

The requirements of this Act, which extends to children under the age of 9 years, who are received for payment, necessitates frequent inspections to see that the premises are suitable, and that the children are properly cared for.

The Health Visitors act as Infant Protection Visitors. At the end of 1937 there were 8 persons receiving children for reward and the number of boarded-out children was 8. The number of visits paid was 77.

### **Nursing Homes—Public Health Act 1936.**

There is one Nursing Home on the register which takes in medical, surgical and maternity cases.

### **NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.**

Total number of live births	...	...	...	727
Births notified by midwives	...	...	...	441
Births notified by doctors	...	...	...	74
Births notified in County Hospital	...	...	...	75
Births notified in Royal Naval Maternity Home	...	...	...	113
Births notified in Military Families' Hospital	...	...	...	9
Births notified in other homes or hospitals	...	...	...	15
Stillbirths	...	...	...	30

### **Notified births, home address not in Chatham.**

Total	...	...	...	...	...	103
County Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	96
Neville House Nursing Home	...	...	...	...	...	7
Other homes or hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	—
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	10
Total number of visits to children	...	...	...	...	...	8,543
0—1 year	...	...	...	...	...	3,883
1—5 years	...	...	...	...	...	4,660

### **Number of visits to infants 0—1 year.**

(a) Primary	...	...	...	...	...	727
(b) Subsequent	...	...	...	...	...	3,156

### **Nature of feeding at Primary Visit.**

(a) Breast	...	...	...	...	...	596
(b) Breast and Artificial	...	...	...	...	...	73
(c) Artificial	...	...	...	...	...	58

## HOME VISITS TO EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

(a) Primary ...	...	...	...	...	140
(b) Subsequent	...	...	...	...	160

## INFANTILE MORTALITY 1937 CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 6 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Measles .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (Non-Tubercular) .. ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Convulsions .. ..	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	3
Bronchitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	3
Pneumonia .. ..	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	2	3	9
Diarrhoeal Diseases .. ..	—	1	—	2	3	—	—	2	—	5
Syphilis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation (overlying)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth .. ..	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Atelectasis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth .. ..	14	1	—	1	16	—	—	—	—	16
Atrophy, Debility .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marasmus .. ..	1	—	—	1	2	4	1	—	—	7
Other Causes .. ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Totals .. ..	21	2	1	4	28	8	3	5	4	48



## Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

### New Cases :—

Infants under 1 year ... ..	424
1 to 5 years ... ..	71
Expectant Mothers ... ..	123
Total ... ..	618

### Attendances :—

Infants under 1 year ... ..	4,567
1 to 5 years ... ..	1,672
Expectant Mothers ... ..	231
Total ... ..	6,470

## Ante-Natal Clinic.

This is held at Elm House on the first Thursday in each month. 123 expectant mothers attended for the first time. 231 attendances were made. The operation of the Midwives Act 1936 has made this inadequate and from 1st June, 1938 the Clinic will be held every Thursday afternoon.

## Maternal Mortality.

Deaths occurring during pregnancy and child birth are investigated by the Medical Officer of Health.

## Supply of Dried Milk, etc.

This is supplied at cost price and also free and reduced in necessitous cases. The number of packets issued was 15,449.

## Inspection of Women's Conveniences.

The Senior Health Visitor paid 195 visits for this purpose.

The Council's arrangements for supervising the health of children from birth to 5 years of age and of expectant and nursing mothers are as follows :—

1. The visiting of children in their homes.
2. The provision of Dried Milk and Cod Liver Oil at cost price or at a reduced rate, or free to expectant and nursing mothers and infants.
3. The provision of Sterilized Maternity Outfits.
4. Dental Treatment.
5. Treatment of Minor Ailments such as Impetigo, Discharging ears, etc.
6. Hospital treatment for more complicated cases.
7. Visiting of cases of Puerperal Sepsis and Ophthalmia Neonatorum.
8. A Mothercraft Centre.
9. An Ante-Natal Clinic.
10. The payment of Midwives' Fees in necessitous cases.
11. Maternity beds at the Royal Naval and Marine Maternity Home and the County Hospital. Fees are according to patients' means.
12. Investigation of Maternal Deaths.
13. Provision of Home Helps in Maternity Cases.

## Section C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### RAINFALL DURING 1937.

I am indebted to W. Coles Finch, Esq., for the following figures taken at Luton Waterworks.

<i>Month.</i>				<i>Depth in Inches.</i>
January	...	...	...	4.95
February	...	...	...	4.08
March	...	...	...	3.73
April	...	...	...	2.32
May	...	...	...	3.09
June	...	...	...	2.40
July	...	...	...	1.71
August	...	...	...	2.35
September	...	...	...	2.08
October	...	...	...	2.35
November	...	...	...	1.60
December	...	...	...	3.91
Total for 12 months				34.57

#### CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

Twenty-eight samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination during 1937, and in all cases the Analyst reported the absence of coliform organisms in 50 c.c. of the samples, and that the waters were in a satisfactory bacteriological condition and suitable for drinking purposes. During the same period 4 samples were chemically examined and found to be of a high degree of organic purity.

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Outfall Works are at Motney Hill, Rainham and the scheme includes the three Medway Towns.

In Chatham 10,218 houses are connected.

A relief Sewer for storm water and extension for the drainage of new houses is now being constructed.

The sewage at the Outfall Works is treated by Tank Settlement only, owing to the very large dilution of the effluent.

#### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Medway is a tidal stream and inevitably undergoes pollution during its course, but no local action is taken.

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The majority are now connected with the Main Drainage System.

Particulars are given in the Senior Sanitary Inspectors report.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

General public cleansing of street gullies, household and trade refuse is carried out by the Borough Engineer's Department. In the central parts of the town there is a daily removal, in other parts twice weekly.

Disposal is by controlled tipping and what was formerly an unsightly, foul smelling and rat breeding dump is now devoid of nuisance.

## RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT 1919.

This Act is administered continuously during the year.

No. of rats caught in dwellinghouses	...	...	...	83
" " " " " shops, stores, etc.	...	...	...	44
" " " " " at Bradfields Wood Bank	...	...	...	495
" " " " " Street End Allotments	...	...	...	125
" " " " " Corporation Refuse Shoot	...	...	...	1,191
Total	...	...	...	1,938

No. of Baits laid in dwellinghouses	...	...	...	510
" " " " " shops, stores, etc.	...	...	...	426
" " " " " at Bradfields Wood Bank	...	...	...	380
" " " " " Street End Allotments	...	...	...	—
" " " " " Corporation Refuse Shoot	...	...	...	—
Total	...	...	...	1,316

No. of Varnish Boards laid	...	...	...	...	8
" " Days worked by Rat Catcher	...	...	...	...	255
" " New Applications	...	...	...	...	67

## SHOPS ACT, 1934.

The Sanitary requirements of shops, adequate ventilation, and temperature are looked after by the Public Health Department, and 297 visits have been paid during the year.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No nuisance and no action.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no public or privately owned baths in Chatham.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During 1937, 23 Council houses were found to be infected and 51 other houses ; total 74. All these were disinfected and all house effects from Slum Clearance Areas have been treated for the eradication of bed bugs.

**SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1937.**

DEAR SIR,

I beg to submit by Report of the work of the Public Health Department during the year ending 31st December, 1937.

**DRAINAGE CONNECTIONS TO THE CORPORATION SEWERS.**

625 house drains were connected to the Corporation sewers during the year—516 were new houses and 109 old houses. The total number of houses now connected to the Corporation sewers is 10,218 or 89.5% of the houses in the Borough.

**CESSPOOL WORK.**

During the year complaints were received on 918 occasions and on investigation 634 were found to be choked drains, whilst the other 284, the cesspools were found to be full and required emptying. 586 cesspools were emptied, from which were taken 612 loads of night sewage, and 464 loads of liquid sewage by day. The number of choked drains cleared on complaints received was 630. During the demolition of houses all cesspools were emptied, deodorized and filled in, several of these being emptied without complaints being received, and in some instances one complaint received necessitated the emptying of two or more cesspools.

**COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.**

There are 7 Registered Cow-keepers and 14 Registered Cowsheds. There is one Producer of Accredited Milk, 2 Wholesale Producers of Ordinary Milk (one Purveyor of Pasteurised Milk, Accredited Milk and Tuberculin Tested Milk, from outside the Borough), 19 Purveyors of Ordinary Milk, and 126 Purveyors of Bottled Sterilized Milk. To the several premises 429 visits were made, 8 Notices were served to cleanse and 1 to repair.

**SLAUGHTERHOUSES.**

Seven Registered and one Licenced Slaughterhouse are in the Borough to which 2,628 visits were made. Two Notices were served to cleanse and one to repair.

**UNSOUND FOOD SURRENDERED, 1937.**

Bovine Carcases and Offals	...	Tuberculosis	...	...	28
„ Forequarters	...	„	...	...	19
„ Hindquarters	...	„	...	...	1
„ Lungs	...	„	...	...	234
„ Livers	...	„	...	...	30
„ Heads and Tongues	...	„	...	...	143
„ Stomachs	...	„	...	...	11
„ Mesenteries and Intestines	...	„	...	...	21
„ Diaphragms	...	„	...	...	4
„ Kidneys	...	„	...	...	7



Calf Carcases and Offals ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Lungs ...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Livers ...	...	...	...	...	2
Pig Carcases and Offals ...	...	...	...	...	8
„ Heads ...	...	...	...	...	142
„ Lungs ...	...	...	...	...	73
„ Livers ...	...	...	...	...	55
„ Mesenteries and Intestines ...	...	...	...	...	27
„ Stomachs ...	...	...	...	...	22
Bovine Carcases and Offals ...	...	...	...	...	3
„ Lungs ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	4
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	5
„ Livers ...	...	...	...	...	14
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	20
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	21
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	10
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Heads and Tongues ...	...	...	...	...	5
„ Udders ...	...	...	...	...	3
Calf Carcases and Offals ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ „ ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ „ ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ „ ...	...	...	...	...	1
Sheep Carcases and Offals ...	...	...	...	...	22
„ „ „ „ ...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ „ „ ...	...	...	...	...	8
„ Lungs ...	...	...	...	...	32
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	10
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	8
„ Livers ...	...	...	...	...	58
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	16
Pig Carcases and Offals ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ „ ...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ „ „ ...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Lungs ...	...	...	...	...	11
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	51
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	26
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	14
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	6
„ Livers ...	...	...	...	...	34
„ „ ...	...	...	...	...	—

### DECOMPOSITION.

49 boxes Fish ; 66 parcels Beef ; 4 tins of Corned Beef ;  
27 Pig Plucks ; 4 tins Miscellaneous Foodstuffs ; 10 tins of Lambs'

Livers ; 28 Bovine Livers ; 229 Rabbits ; 84 Bovine Kidneys ; 800 Eggs ; 5 Chickens ; 100 miscellaneous packets of Ice-Cream ; 3 Bovine Hindquarters.

Total Weight : 18 tons, 5 cwts. 3 qrs. 7 lbs.

### **BAKEHOUSES.**

There are 17 Bakehouses on the register of which 10 are factory bakehouses and 7 are workshop bakehouses—2 of the latter are classed as underground bakehouses. One of the factory and 4 of the workshop bakehouses are in disuse—one of the latter being underground. Periodical Notices are sent to all occupiers calling their attention to the times of limewashing. 60 visits were made to these premises.

### **FISH OFFAL COLLECTION.**

Fish offal is collected daily from 15 shops. As the fish bins are removed a clean bin is left and 2/- per week is charged for the collection and use of the bins. The fish offal is purchased by one of the local farmers and is ploughed into the land as manure, so that no nuisance arises. A special van is provided for the collection and disposal of the offal.

### **INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

236 Cases of Diphtheria and 127 cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to the Isolation Hospital. 564 loads of infected bedding were removed and disinfected and in 3 cases Outwork was found on infected premises. 76 books from the Public Library, 47 from private libraries and 10 School Books were removed and fumigated.

### **COMMON LODGING HOUSES.**

Four Common Lodging Houses are on the Register to which 27 visits were made and 2 Notices were served to repair. These premises are well kept and most of the lodgers are permanent. Periodical Notices are served on the keepers calling their attention to the times for limewashing.

### **HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.**

Twenty-three of these premises are on the Register to which 79 visits were made. 16 of these premises, forming one block, were overhauled and put into a thorough state of repair. They are chiefly occupied by aged persons and the bedding and premises are clean and well kept.

### **OFFENSIVE TRADES.**

There are 23 Fish Friers, 2 Knackers Yards, 3 Old Metal Dealers, 4 Marine Store Dealers and 1 Gut Scraper on the Register. (The Gut Scraper has temporarily ceased business owing to the change of occupiers.) 100 visits were made to the several premises. 2 Notices were served to cleanse and 1 to repair.

**MORTUARY.**

Twenty-seven bodies were removed to the Mortuary—15 males and 12 Females, of which 5 were children. There were 26 post mortems. No bodies were buried at the expense of the parish.

**CONTAGIOUS DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.**

One case of suspected Swine Fever was reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, but was not confirmed.

**CATTLE TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1925.**

Four Cases of suspected Tuberculosis were reported from different dairy farms. On slaughtering 3 were found to be affected with Generalised Tuberculosis and one was found not to be affected

**NOTICES SERVED.**

Preliminary Notices	...	...	...	...	...	273
Statutory Notices—1875 Act, 72	}	...	...	...	...	103
„ „ —1936 Act, 31		...	...	...	...	48
Section 11, Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	48

**VISITS MADE DURING THE YEAR.**

Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	13
Drainage and subsequent visits	...	...	...	...	...	354
Repairs and subsequent visits	...	...	...	...	...	2395
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	3414
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	573
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	2628
Houses let in lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	79
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	27
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	...	74
Marine Stores	...	...	...	...	...	10
Knackers Yard	...	...	...	...	...	3
Gut Factory	...	...	...	...	...	13
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	119
Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	310
Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	78
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	253
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	60
Houses, 1st Visit	...	...	...	...	...	775
Ice Cream Vendors	...	...	...	...	...	58
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	30
Contagious Diseases of Animals Acts	...	...	...	...	...	76
Market	...	...	...	...	...	9
Stables	...	...	...	...	...	102
Courts and Alleys	...	...	...	...	...	64
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	11
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	392
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	84

Overcrowding ... ..	13
Bedding and Disinfection ... ..	376
Unsound Food and Cold Store ... ..	121
Food Shops ... ..	130
Schools ... ..	2
Cesspools ... ..	52
Verminous Premises ... ..	346
Council House Applicants ... ..	35
Rats Order ... ..	41
Gipsy Encampment ... ..	41
Refuse Heaps and Accumulations ... ..	94
Shops ... ..	297
Flooding ... ..	12
Police Court ... ..	1
Smoke Nuisances ... ..	1
Garages ... ..	3
Total ...	13,572

#### NUISANCES ABATED.

Accumulations of Refuse, etc., removed ... ..	29
Ceilings Whitened ... ..	186
Ceilings Repaired ... ..	151
Cesspool Covers repaired or sealed ... ..	12
Chimney Pots replaced ... ..	14
Chimney Stacks Repaired ... ..	52
Choked Drains Cleared ... ..	11
Coppers repaired or rebuilt ... ..	34
Doors or Frames repaired ... ..	55
Doors provided or renewed ... ..	22
Drainage of Old Buildings relaid ... ..	8
Drainage part relaid ... ..	6
Damp walls remedied ... ..	80
Drains repaired ... ..	14
Drains ventilated ... ..	13
Firegrates renewed ... ..	28
Firegrates repaired ... ..	54
Floors repaired ... ..	83
Flushing Cisterns repaired ... ..	10
Flushing Cisterns provided ... ..	6
Flues repaired or provided ... ..	2
Gutters or downpipes cleared ... ..	14
Gutters or downpipes repaired or rehung ... ..	111
Gutters or downpipes provided ... ..	24
Inspection pits provided ... ..	3
Interiors cleansed ... ..	161

Keeping Animals in unfit state	...	...	...	3
Door locks or fasteners mended	...	...	...	16
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	66
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	187
Sashcords repaired or provided	...	...	...	48
Sash fasteners repaired	...	...	...	1
Sinks provided or renewed	...	...	...	7
Sink waste pipes repaired or provided	...	...	...	15
Sanitary Dust Bins provided	...	...	...	4
Stair treads or steps repaired	...	...	...	27
Walls repaired	...	...	...	302
Weatherboarding or external walls repaired	...	...	...	115
W.C. seats or risers repaired or provided	...	...	...	18
Window frames, sashes, sills, etc., repaired or provided	...	...	...	194
Wash-houses repaired	...	...	...	3
Windows re-glazed	...	...	...	13
Yard Paving repaired	...	...	...	35
Yard Gullies renewed or repaired	...	...	...	7
W.C. Structures rebuilt	...	...	...	5
Verminous Bedding or premises cleansed	...	...	...	9
Drains connected to the Corporation sewer	...	...	...	21
Houses reconditioned	...	...	...	16
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	122

W. HUGHES,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector.*



## FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

### 1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries) .. .. .	51	—	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) .. .. .	100	5	—
Workplaces (other than Out-workers' Premises) .. .. .	—	—	—
Total .. .. .	151	5	—

### 2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars (1)	No. of Defects			No. of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts* :—				
Want of cleanliness .. .. .	1	1	—	—
Want of ventilation .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances .. .. .	4	2	—	—
Sanitary Insufficient .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Accommodation Unsuitable or defective .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts :—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s, 101) .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Order, 1921) .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Total .. .. .	5	3	—	—

\* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

# Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.

Nature of Work (1)	Instances. (2)	Notices served (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Wearing Apparel :—			
Making, etc. .. ..	3	3	—
Cleaning and washing .. ..	—	—	—
Household linen .. ..	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets ..	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings..	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery ..	—	—	—
Electro-plate .. ..	—	—	—
File making .. ..	—	—	—
Brass and brass articles .. ..	—	—	—
Fur pulling .. ..	—	—	—
Cables and chains .. ..	—	—	—
Anchors and grapnels .. ..	—	—	—
Cart gear .. ..	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys .. ..	—	—	—
Umbrellas, etc. .. ..	—	—	—
Artificial flowers .. ..	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets ..	—	—	—
Tents .. ..	—	—	—
Sacks .. ..	—	—	—
Racquet and tennis balls ..	—	—	—
Paper, etc., boxes, paper bags ..	—	—	—
Brush making .. ..	—	—	—
Pea Picking .. ..	—	—	—
Feather sorting .. ..	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc. ..	—	—	—
Stuffed toys .. ..	—	—	—
Basket making .. ..	—	—	—
Chocolates and sweetmeats ..	—	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc. ..	—	—	—
Textile weaving .. ..	—	—	—
Lampshades .. ..	—	—	—
Total .. ..	3	3	—

**Section D.****HOUSING.****1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.**

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	753
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	2395
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	140
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	2005
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	78
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	284

**2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	152
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**3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.**

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. ...	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ... ..	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners...	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	94
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners ... ..	95
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners...	—



(c)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	50
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	46
(d)	Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	1
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	1

#### 4. HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV—OVERCROWDING.

(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	109
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	110
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	723
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	4
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	61
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	351
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ..	None

#### SCHOOLS, SANITARY CONDITION AND WATER SUPPLY.

The Sanitary Inspector pays frequent visits to all schools and checks the sanitary conditions. The water supply is from the company's mains.

#### NEW HOUSES DURING 1937.

(a)	Plans submitted ... ..	127
(b)	Number built ... ..	355
(c)	Of these the number erected by the Local Authority was ... ..	116

#### CLEARANCE AREAS.

Particulars and inspections for 5 Clearance Areas, 18 houses, were completed with a view to reporting early in 1938. With these 18 houses the total now dealt with in Clearance Areas is now 262.

**INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.**

255 houses were reported up to the end of 1937.

Of these 165 were demolished ;

48 ,, rendered fit ;

3 ,, closed under undertaking not to re-let ;

28 ,, not yet demolished ;

11 ,, undertaking to make fit not yet completed.

There have been 38 individual unfit houses reconditioned by informal action, and parts of 2 houses have been the subject of Closing Orders.

## Section E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Particulars of the number of Cowsheds, Registered Cow-keepers and Purveyors of Milk, are given in the statement of the Sanitary Inspector, also the number of inspections of these premises.

A quarterly inspection and report as to the condition of Milch Cows is made by the Veterinary Officer.

A monthly bacteriological examination of the pasteurised milk supplied to school children is made.

32 samples of Milk were sent to the County Laboratory for analysis—5 being accredited, 10 for Biological examination and the remainder for Bacterial Count.

### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are 5 slaughterhouses in the Borough where slaughtering each day is carried out and much of the Inspector's time is devoted to the inspection of meat which is slaughtered at these premises. Every attempt is made to inspect all meat slaughtered and as far as can be ascertained this has happened during the last 12 months. A considerable quantity of meat slaughtered in Chatham is sold in towns around Chatham and also taken to Smithfield Market in London and it has been necessary for the Inspector on duty to work many hours outside his ordinary working hours to accomplish this.

18 tons 5 cwts. 3 qrts. 7 lbs. of meat was surrendered during the year as being unfit for human consumption.

#### Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected .. ..	756	781	1100	4586	7524
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned .. ..	—	3	3	33	4
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned	28	41	—	119	143
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis .. ..	3.7%	5.6%	0.3%	3.3%	1.9%
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned ..	3	25	1	—	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned..	60	246	2	—	155
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .. ..	8.3%	36.0%	0.3%	—	2.1%



## Section F.

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Table (a) shows Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified, admitted to hospital and deaths during 1937.

(b) Infectious Diseases during 1937 including Tuberculosis classified according to ages.

(c) Ward distribution of Infectious Diseases, including Tuberculosis during 1937.

(d) The number of cases of Notifiable Infectious Diseases 1928-1937.

#### (a) Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis and Measles) during the year 1937.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria .. .. .	261	236	3
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	160	127	—
Pneumonia .. .. .	14	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	9	—	1
Erysipelas .. .. .	28	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis .. .. .	4	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	3	—	—
Malaria .. .. .	—	—	—
Enteric Fever .. .. .	—	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis .. .. .	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis .. .. .	—	—	—

## (b) Infectious Diseases, 1937. (AGES)

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Acute Poliomyelitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	(Tuberculosis)	
								Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Under 1 year .. ..	3	2	2	—	—	—	3	—	—
1-2 years .. ..	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
2-3 years .. ..	9	11	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
3-4 years .. ..	13	10	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
4-5 years .. ..	17	13	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
5-10 years .. ..	69	129	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
10-15 years .. ..	26	69	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
15-20 years .. ..	5	11	2	1	1	—	—	4	1
20-25 years .. ..	5	4	4	—	4	1	—	6	1
25-35 years .. ..	6	7	—	2	4	—	—	21	—
35-45 years .. ..	2	1	4	1	—	—	—	4	—
45-65 years .. ..	1	—	7	4	—	—	—	8	—
65 years and upwards ..	—	—	7	3	—	—	—	1	—
Totals .. ..	160	261	28	14	9	4	3	45	4

(c) Infectious Diseases, 1937.  
(WARDS).

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Acute Poliomyelitis	Tuberculosis	
								Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
St. Mary's .. ..	18	25	1	2	—	—	1	7	1
St. John's .. ..	10	29	1	4	1	—	—	9	1
St. Michael's .. ..	41	49	4	1	2	—	1	6	1
St. Paul's .. ..	40	112	19	3	5	3	1	11	1
Luton .. ..	21	25	2	1	1	—	1	5	—
Christ Church .. ..	30	21	1	3	—	—	—	7	—
Totals .. ..	160	261	28	14	9	3	4	45	4



(d) Table showing Number of Cases of Infectious Diseases,  
1928-1937.

Year	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Malaria	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Acute Poliomyelitis	Encephalitis Lethargica	Dysentery
1928 ..	223	447	0	7	12	0	7	29	0	1	2	0
1929 ..	61	98	6	4	13	1	14	24	5	0	2	0
1930 ..	84	44	2	2	21	0	4	7	2	0	1	0
1931 ..	58	26	2	6	11	0	1	20	0	1	0	0
1932 ..	149	11	16	4	11	0	4	21	6	0	0	0
1933 ..	146	25	2	1	10	0	2	29	2	0	0	0
1934 ..	114	31	1	2	17	0	2	19	0	0	0	0
1935 ..	44	22	2	2	17	0	0	30	0	0	0	0
1936 ..	40	25	0	1	21	0	4	20	1	0	0	0
1937 ..	160	261	0	9	28	0	3	14	0	4	0	0

## **PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORIES, 1937.**

				<i>Pos.</i>	<i>Neg.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Diphtheria Swabs	...	...	...	230	982	1212
Tubercle, Sputum	...	...	...	76	182	258
Hairs for Ringworm	...	...	...	3	4	7
Serum for Typhoid	...	...	...	—	5	5
Faeces for Typhoid	...	...	...	—	1	1

## **HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

St. William's Hospital situated in Rochester is used jointly by Rochester and Chatham.

It has accommodation for 85 patients, based on a standard of 144 sq. feet per bed, and the site is capable of extension for 120 beds.

With the exception of Small Pox, for which separate provision has been made, any type of infection is admitted.

For Small Pox, if cases should occur, they will be admitted to the London County Council Hospital at Joyce Green. In the event of accommodation not being available there, they will be taken into the old Small Pox Hospital at Rochester.

## **SCARLET FEVER.**

Cases Notified	...	...	...	...	160
Removed to Hospital	...	...	...	...	127
Households affected	...	...	...	...	137
Deaths	...	...	...	...	Nil

Scarlet Fever has been rather prevalent during the second half of the year. It has been of a mild type and there have been no deaths.

Fuller knowledge of this disease has shown that it is not one disease but many closely allied diseases, that an attack of one variety does not give immunity to the other varieties and that the group is much more widespread than was thought owing to the fact that it is now known that the majority of cases show no signs of the rash. In St. William's Hospital it is impossible to isolate each type of Scarlet Fever from the other types and there is therefore risk of a patient entering the hospital with say type 2 becoming infected in hospital with, say, type 4 or 6, etc. For this reason alone it is better for cases of Scarlet Fever to be nursed in their own homes unless they are either

- (1) So ill as to require hospital treatment, or
- (2) So situated as to be a special danger to public health, e.g., in a house connected with the sale of food, especially milk.

When it is realised that only those cases of this group of diseases showing a rash are notified as Scarlet Fever whilst the others constituting at least two thirds of the total are ignored, the



reason will be apparent why the policy of securing admission to hospital of all cases of Scarlet Fever has completely failed to make any difference in the incidence of the disease.

In the subjoined Table are particulars of Scarlet Fever from 1916—1937 :—

Year	Cases Notified	Number under 5 Years	Deaths	Treated in Hospital	Attack Rate per 1000 Population	Mortality per 1000	Percentage removed to Hospital
1916	88	13	2	70	2	.004	79
1917	52	8	—	43	1.2	—	83
1918	93	7	2	81	2.1	.004	87
1919	56	7	1	49	1.2	.002	88
1920	110	16	1	87	1.8	.002	80
1921	145	19	2	118	3.4	.004	81
1922	78	8	—	72	1.8	—	91
1923	60	9	1	58	1.3	.002	96
1924	44	12	—	32	1	—	70
1925	53	10	1	48	1.2	.002	90
1926	73	8	2	55	1.7	.004	75
1927	123	22	—	94	2.9	—	76
1928	223	29	1	93	5	.002	42
1929	61	10	2	52	—	.004	85
1930	84	16	—	71	1.9	—	84
1931	58	8	1	48	1.3	.002	82
1932	149	21	—	103	3.4	—	69
1933	146	33	—	110	—	—	74
1934	114	22	3	91	2.5	.007	79
1935	44	5	—	36	.99	—	82
1936	40	4	1	31	.91	.002	77.5
1937	160	45	—	127	3.6	—	79.3

#### DIPHTHERIA.

Cases Notified	...	...	...	...	261
Removal to Hospital	...	...	...	...	236
Households affected	...	...	...	...	229
Deaths	...	...	...	...	3

Diphtheria has been very prevalent during the 2nd half of the year. This has been very disappointing after our work in immunisation which has gone on since the end of 1929. Still those who have been properly immunised have reaped the benefit. Since 1929, 3,531 have been immunised and only 24 cases of Diphtheria have been notified who have been immunised giving a rate of 0.68 per cent whilst for the non immunised population up to the age of 20 the number of cases was 225 giving a rate of 1.6 per cent. Nor is this the whole story of the 24 cases occurring in immunised subjects, none were seriously ill, many were not clinically Diphtheria at all but were merely notified because a swab was positive for Diphtheria and there were no deaths.

Diphtheria is a disease where the germs live and multiply on the surface of the throat and the serious effects are due not to the local inflammation in the throat but to the toxins given off by these germs and absorbed into the blood.

By immunisation we confer on the body the power to neutralise the toxins in the blood and so save the patient from their ill effects. We do not and cannot at present add to the power of the body to attack the germs themselves.

The effect therefore, of immunisation might be expressed as allowing the patient to have diphtheria ON him but not IN him. But this means that a patient with Diphtheria germs on him but doing him no harm is unaware that the germs are there at all yet these germs are virulent if given to a non immunised person, i.e., there is an increased danger from carriers.

Particulars of Diphtheria from 1916 to 1937 :—

Year	Cases Notified	Deaths	Death Rate per cent. of those attacked
1916	76	3	4
1917	34	2	6
1918	31	1	3
1919	27	2	7
1920	261	13	5
1921	176	16	9
1922	61	6	10
1923	27	—	—
1924	14	—	—
1925	47	2	4
1926	222	17	7
1927	252	19	7
1928	447	30	6.7
1929	98	11	1.2
1930	44	1	2.3
1931	26	—	—
1932	11	—	—
1933	25	—	—
1934	31	1	3.2
1935	22	1	4.5
1936	25	2	8
1937	261	3	1.2

## SUPPLY OF ANTITOXIN.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is kept at the Town Hall and at the Chief Fire Station. It is supplied free of charge and is obtainable by Medical Practitioners at any hour of the day or night. The number of units issued during 1937 was 3,064,000.

## IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The Clinic first opened at the end of 1929 is held every Wednesday.

New Cases	...	...	...	...	398
Immunised	...	...	...	...	381
Attendances	...	...	...	...	1773

The immunising Agent used up till the end of July was Toxoid Antitoxin Mixture (T.A.M.) when 3 inoculations were given at fortnightly intervals, a final Schick Test being made about 3 months after the last injection. The dosage for the first two inoculations is 1.c.c. and for the 3rd 1.5 c.c. If there was a positive reaction Toxoid Antitoxin Floccules (T.A.F.) was used.

From July onwards Alum Precipitated Toxoid (A.P.T.) was used when only 1 small dose is given to test the child's reaction and if satisfactory the full dose is given 3 weeks later. The child is then Schick Tested 2 or 3 months after. The dosage for the first dose is 0.1 c.c. (children over 10) and 0.2 c.c. (children under 10), the full dose being 0.4 c.c. The number of children who showed Schick Positive reaction after 3 doses of T.A.M. was 10, but since A.P.T. was used there were no children requiring further injections.

The following table shows the numbers and ages of the new cases :—

1- 2 years	2- 3 years	3- 4 years	4- 5 years	5- 6 years	6- 7 years	7- 8 years	8- 9 years	9-10 years	10-11 years	11-12 years	12-13 years	13-14 years	Totals
107	40	34	32	96	18	13	23	9	7	9	5	5	398

The total number of children who have been immunised since 1929 is 3531.

The yearly figures are as follows :—

	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Total New Cases ...	432	614	575	459	392	526	415	398
„ Immunised ...	388	560	561	405	359	482	395	381
„ Attendances...	2182	2716	2819	2295	1944	2271	2049	1773

In order to keep up attendances constant propaganda work is necessary and is carried out at the Child Welfare Centre, Clinics and Schools by the Health Visitors and School Nurses and by the exhibition of posters.

## ENTERIC FEVER.

There were no cases.

**SMALL POX.**

No cases.

**VACCINATION.**

I am indebted to the Vaccination Officer of the Chatham and Rochester District for the following information :—

Number of cases in the Birth Lists received during the year ... ..	921
Number of certificates of successful vaccination ...	495
Number of certificates of postponement owing to health of child ... ..	18
Number of statutory declarations ... ..	398
Number of certificates of insusceptibility ... ..	3
Number of removals from district ... ..	35
Number not found ... ..	17
Percentage vaccinated ... ..	53.7

**NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.**

There were only 10 cases of Measles notified from schools during the year.

There were no deaths.

**INFLUENZA.**

Nineteen deaths were registered as directly due to Influenza, but as the fatal issue is usually due to Bronchitis or Pneumonia, no doubt many of the deaths attributed to these causes were associated with Influenza.

**CANCER.**

The facilities for diagnosis and treatment are, general practitioners, the County and Voluntary Hospital.

The latter institution is a radium centre.

The total number of deaths was 44 males, 27 females.

**PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.**

No action has been taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

**VENEREAL DISEASE.**

The treatment centre for the Medway Area is situated at 36, New Road, Rochester and is provided by the Kent County Council. The following particulars are supplied by H. Nicol, Esq., F.R.C.S., the Medical Officer in charge.

**Total New Cases :**

Males ... ..	64
Females ... ..	38
Total ... ..	102

Average number of Chatham Patients under daily treatment or observation during 1937 :—

Males ... ..	82
Females ... ..	58
Total ... ..	140

Total attendances of Chatham Patients ... .. 4151

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases			Vision Un- impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blind- ness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At home	In hospital				
3	1	2	3	—	—	—

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Table showing new cases and Mortality during 1937.

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years ..	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	1
5-10 years ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
10-15 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 years ..	3	1	—	1	2	1	—	—
20-25 years ..	2	4	1	—	1	2	—	—
25-35 years ..	15	6	—	—	6	6	—	—
35-45 years ..	2	2	—	—	4	2	—	—
45-55 years ..	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
55-65 years ..	6	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 years up ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	30	15	2	2	19	11	1	1

## NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

## Pulmonary.

Total Notifications	...	...	...	45
By Private Practitioners	...	...	...	24
Hospitals	...	...	...	4
Tuberculosis Officer	...	...	...	9
Poor Law Institutions	...	...	...	1
Transferred from other districts	...	...	...	7



**Non-Pulmonary.**

Total Notifications ...	...	...	...	4
By Private Practitioners ...	...	...	...	2
Hospitals ...	...	...	...	—
Tuberculosis Officer ...	...	...	...	—
Poor Law Institutions ...	...	...	...	1
Transferred from other districts ...	...	...	...	1

**Classification of Non-Pulmonary Cases.**

Glandular ...	...	...	...	...	1
Meninges ...	...	...	...	...	2
Kidney ...	...	...	...	...	1

**Delay in Notification.**

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Notification Received.</i>			<i>Date of Death.</i>
E.B. ...	...	...	29. 4.37	28. 4.37
A.T. ...	...	...	14. 6.37	12. 6.37
C.R. ...	...	...	13. 3.37	12. 3.37
M.T. ...	...	...	20. 3.37	29. 3.37
W.H. ...	...	...	27. 9.37	4.10.37

On January 1st, 1937, there were on the Register :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	75	42	117
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	12	18	30

On December 31st, 1937, the numbers were :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	75	39	114
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	10	17	27

The number of cases removed from the Register during 1937 was :—

Pulmonary ...	...	...	52
Non-Pulmonary ...	...	...	9

Twenty of the above removals were presumed to be cured, as there was no record of continued treatment and five years had elapsed in the case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and three years in the case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis since the Primary Notification.

Thirty-two had died and 9 had left the district.

There were 5 deaths from unnotified cases of Tuberculosis.



I am indebted to Dr. Charles Roper, the Tuberculosis Officer for this Area for the following:—

**Particulars of Patients from the Chatham Area dealt with at the County Tuberculosis Dispensary during the year ended December 31st, 1937.**

	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Totals				
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Tuberculous	27	17	—	—	—	3	4	1	27	20	4	1	52
Non-Tub.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	43	24	0	133
Obs. Dec. 37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	33	5
Total New Cases	27	17	—	—	—	3	4	1	64	64	28	43	190

Total Attendances           ...       ...       940

**Institutions to which patients were sent during 1937:—**

Lenham	...	...	...	...	...	11
Preston Hall...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Keycol Hill	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tait Convalescent Home	...	...	...	...	...	1
Eversfield Chest Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	2
Grosvenor Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	...	12
R. Nat. Sanatorium, Bournemouth	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cranbrook Convalescent Home	...	...	...	...	...	1
Burrow Hill Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	...	1
St. Anthony's, Cheam	...	...	...	...	...	1
Victoria Home, Margate	...	...	...	...	...	1
County Hospital, Chatham	...	...	...	...	...	17
Total	...	...	...	...	...	53









